

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. Profile-creating apparatus for creating at least a first
2 profile associated with transmission upon at least a first channel
3 of at least a first burst-data signal transmitted in bursts to a
4 receiving station, said profile-creating apparatus comprising:

5 a profile parameter determiner coupled to receive an
6 indication of an initial burst of the first burst data signal
7 transmitted upon the first channel to the receiving station, said
8 profile parameter determiner for determining a value of at least
9 one parameter representative of communication of the burst data
10 signal to the receiving station; and

11 a profile parameter storage device coupled to said
12 profile parameter determiner, said profile parameter storage device
13 for storing values representative of the at least one parameter
14 determined by said profile parameter determiner, the values stored
15 at said profile parameter storage device to be used to facilitate
16 receive operations performed at the receiving station of subsequent
17 bursts of the first burst data signal.

1 2. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the receiving station is
2 operable in a communication system in which communication protocols
3 include a contention period and wherein the initial burst of the
4 first burst data signal, responsive to which said profile parameter
5 determiner determines the at least one parameter, is communicated
6 during the contention period.

1 3. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the at least one
2 parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises
3 a channel-related parameter, the channel-related parameter
4 representative of a channel condition of the first channel.

1 4. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein the channel-related
2 parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises
3 a value representative of fading exhibited upon the first channel.

1 5. The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein the receiving station
2 comprises an equalizer for performing equalization operations when
3 the at least the first burst data signal and wherein the value
4 representative of fading exhibited when the first channel comprises
5 an equalizer weighting value to be used by the equalizer during the
 equalization operations.

1 6. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein the receiving station
2 comprises an antenna assembly and wherein the channel-related
3 parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises
4 an antenna parameter related to the antenna assembly.

1 7. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein the first burst data
2 signal is transmitted by a first sending station having an antenna
3 assembly and wherein the channel-related parameter determined by
4 said profile parameter determiner comprises an antenna parameter
 related to the antenna assembly.

1 8. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the at least one
2 parameter determiner by said profile parameter determiner comprises
3 a signal-related parameter, the signal-related parameter
4 representative of a signal characteristic of the first burst data
 signal transmitted when the first channel.

1 9. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the signal-related
2 parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises
3 a value representative of a frequency characteristic of the first
4 burst data signal.

1 10. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the signal-related
2 parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises
3 a value representative of a time-shift characteristic of the first
4 burst data signal.

1 11. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the first burst data
2 signal includes forward error correction (FEC) and wherein the
3 signal-related parameter determined by said profile parameter
4 determiner comprises a value representative of the FEC included in
5 the first burst data signal.

1 12. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the signal related
2 parameter determined by said profile parameter determiner comprises
a value related to power-levels of the first burst data signal.

1 13. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said profile parameter
2 determiner is further coupled to receive an indication of at least
3 one additional burst of the first burst data signal, said profile
4 parameter determiner further for determining an updated value of
the at least one parameter responsive to the at least one
additional burst of the first burst signal.

1 14. The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the receiving station
2 is operable in a communication system in which communication
3 protocols include a contention period and wherein the initial burst
4 and the at least one additional burst of the first burst data
5 signal, responsive to which said profile parameter determiner
6 determines the at least one parameter is communicated during the
contention period.

1 15. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein at least the first burst
2 data signal transmitted upon the at least the first channel
3 comprises a plurality of burst data signals transmitted upon a
4 plurality of channels and wherein said profile parameter determiner
5 determines a value of a plurality of parameters representative of
6 communication of the burst data signals and each of the plurality
of channels.

1 16. A method for creating at least a first profile associated
2 with transmission upon at least a first channel of at least a
3 first burst data signal in bursts to a receiving station, said
4 method comprising:

5 responsive to reception at the receiving station of an
6 initial burst of the first burst data signal transmitted upon the
7 first channel, determining a value of at least one parameter
8 representative of communication of the burst data signal to the
9 receiving station;

10 storing values representative of the at least one
11 parameter determined during said operation of determining; and

12 using the values stored during said operation of storing
13 to facilitate receive operations performed at the receiving station
upon at least one subsequent burst of the first burst data signal.

1 17. The method of Claim 16 further comprising the operations
2 of:

3 detecting, at the receiving station the at least one
4 subsequent burst of the first burst data signal;

5 updating the value of the at least one parameter
6 determined during said operation of determining responsive to the
7 at least one subsequent burst detected during said operation of
detecting.

18. The method of Claim 16 wherein the receiving station is
operable in a communication system in which communication protocols
include a contention period and wherein the initial burst of the
first burst data signal responsive to which the at least one
parameter is determined during said operation of determining is
transmitted to the receiving station during the contention period.

1 19. The method of Claim 16 wherein the at least one parameter
2 determined during said operation of determining comprises a
3 channel-related parameter.

1 20. The method of Claim 16 wherein the at least one parameter
2 determined during said operation of determining comprises a signal-
3 related parameter.